

**CAP-MR/DD Update
December 22, 2008**

TRANSITION TO HOME SUPPORTS

As indicated in the November 5, 2008 CAP-MR/DD Update, DHHS provided a 60 day transition period for participants/families to make the transition to the new Home Supports definition. DHHS has re-evaluated the intent of the service and considered feedback and implications of the components of the Home Supports definition. DHHS staff has talked with many families, who represent of a variety of situations and studied possible alternatives to increase the flexibility of the Home Supports definition. This re-evaluation of the purpose of the service definition, in addition to the requirement to maintain the financial integrity of the service and other regulations, has lead DHHS to the decision that no further modifications will be made to the Home Supports service definition.

In the November 5, 2008 CAP-MR/DD Update instructions were provided regarding the submission of Plan of Care revisions, effective November 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008, to capture any changes resulting from decisions made by participants/family/guardians regarding service delivery options during the 60 day transition period. Participants and their families must now determine if they will utilize the Home Supports definition or utilize services delivered by other providers. Individual Plans of Care affected by the conclusion of the 60 day transition period (December 31, 2008) must be revised to reflect the choice of the participant and family, ensuring adherence to the requirements of the service definition, and must be submitted to Value Options prior to December 31, 2008.

To following is provided to clarify the Home Supports definition:

Home Supports is a service delivered by biological parents, adoptive parents, step-parents, family members and/or guardians of the person (hereafter referred to as parent/family member/guardian) who live in the natural home with the participant. This service combines habilitation (skill building and maintenance) and personal care. The service has 5 levels of reimbursement, depending upon the needs of the participant and is paid based on daily rates.

Participants whose parent/family member/guardian who live in the natural home with them and elect to provide the Home Supports services may also receive services from other caregivers; the family does not have to provide 100% of the services provided to the participant. On the same day the participant receives Home Supports, they may also receive the following services, based on the needs identified in the Person Centered Plan: Supported Employment, Long Term Vocational Supports, Day Supports, Adult Day Health or the Individualized Day Program that is the community component of Home and Community Supports. Since the Home Supports service is paid at a daily rate, however, on any day that the parent/family member/guardian provides Homes Supports, they will

be responsible for providing all of the personal care and habilitation services the participant needs in the home. A participant may receive Home Supports from the parent/family member and/or guardian one day and other home-delivered services from another provider provided the next day. The mix will be determined by the participant and their parent/guardian, working with their case manager, in developing the Person Centered Plan. If the participant and their parent/family member/guardian agree that they want 100% of the services delivered in the home to be provided by the parent/family member/ guardian, they can do that. If they decide that the parent/family member/guardian will deliver services less than 7 days a week, be that 1, 2, 3, etc. days, the Person Centered Plan can be written to accommodate that as well. In addition, at whatever level of service the parent/family member/guardian provides, they will also be able to include respite services in the plan for times when they want/need a rest from caregiver duties.

Family members who do not live in the same home with the participant will continue to be able to deliver any service, other than Home Supports, for which they meet the staff qualifications. Family members who do not live in the home with the participant cannot deliver Home Supports.

Please email questions to Rose Burnette at rose.burnette@ncmail.net .